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RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the Third Committee (A/46/704 and Corr.1 and 2)]

46/94. Implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing: integration of the elderly in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 40/30 of 29 November 1985, in which it emphasized that the elderly must be considered an important and necessary element in the development process at all levels within a given society,

Recalling also its resolution 45/106 of 14 December 1990, in which it endorsed the action programme on ageing for 1992 and beyond 1/ and urged wide participation in the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the International Plan of Action on Ageing,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/38 of 24 May 1989, in which the Council noted that women constituted a larger part of the older population and that in the years to come the number of elderly women would increase more rapidly in the developing countries than in the developed ones,

Noting with satisfaction the observance of the first International Day for the Elderly on 1 October 1991,

Noting with appreciation the convening of the Expert Group Meeting on Integration of Ageing and Elderly Women into Development at Vienna from 7 to 11 October 1991 by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in collaboration with the American Association of Retired Persons,

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Noting with concern that the contributions to the Trust Fund for Ageing have steadily declined since 1982 and that if this trend continues the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing will be compromised,

Mindful of the need for innovative and effective international cooperation in the field of ageing if countries are to achieve self-reliance in responding to the ageing of their populations,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation on ageing for 1992 and beyond; 2/

2. Recommends wide multisectoral cooperation in setting global targets on ageing to be reached by the year 2001 and invites wide participation in a proposed interregional symposium and other meetings on target-setting;

3. Requests Member States to consider setting appropriate and, where feasible, quantifiable, national targets on ageing for the year 2001;

4. Requests all participants in target-setting to pay special attention to practical strategies, identifying in detail the key agencies and the necessary means for reaching the targets;

5. Urges Member States to participate, at the highest level, in the plenary meetings of the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session to be devoted, inter alia, to launching a set of global targets on ageing to be reached by the year 2001;

6. Calls upon Member States to participate in the inquiry for the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, in the first half of 1992, and to take the occasion of the review to plan ahead, setting national targets on ageing for the year 2001;

7. Invites the Secretary-General to consider the feasibility of appointing eminent personalities as good will ambassadors for ageing during the decade 1992-2001;

8. Invites Member States, the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, the regional commissions and non-governmental organizations to disseminate widely the United Nations Principles for Older Persons 3/ at the local, national, regional and global levels, especially in the year 1992, the tenth anniversary of the World Assembly on Ageing;

9. Urges Member States and non-governmental organizations of the elderly to second experts and administrative personnel to the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in 1992-1993 to help in selected priority activities, including the third review and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing;

2/ A/46/361.

3/ Resolution 46/91, annex.

10. Notes with appreciation the support given by the United Nations Population Fund to the applied research and training project entitled "Developmental Implications of Demographic Change: Global Population Ageing" being implemented by the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, and in view of the importance of the subject matter, encourages the United Nations Population Fund to continue its support;

11. Invites the United Nations Population Fund to support a senior adviser on population ageing at the Centre for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs in view of the importance of the ageing in future population changes and the role of the Centre as focal point in the United Nations system for ageing;

12. Calls upon the United Nations Population Fund and all other bodies of the United Nations system involved in preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, to utilize the results of the project mentioned in paragraph 10 above as a major input to the Conference;

13. Calls upon the specialized agencies and other relevant bodies of the United Nations system to give recognition to the contribution of the elderly to social and economic development in the context of major events and conferences of the 1990s, such as those dealing with the environment, human rights, the family, population and the advancement of women;

14. Notes with satisfaction the recent establishment, under the patronage of the United Nations, of the Banyan Fund Association: A World Fund for Ageing, whose main goal is to secure or broker funds for activities that would support implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing;

15. Also notes with satisfaction the leading role of the International Institute on Ageing in Malta in global training initiatives on ageing and its increasing involvement in other countries in the execution of projects funded by the United Nations Population Fund;

16. Urges the United Nations, Member States and non-governmental organizations to support the African Society of Gerontology in developing and implementing a regional programme of activities on ageing;

17. Encourages non-governmental organizations and the private sector to continue close collaboration with the United Nations system in the field of ageing;

18. Requests the Secretary-General, in celebrating the International Year of the Family in 1994, to draw attention to the contributions that the elderly make to the family;

19. Invites special observance of the International Day for the Elderly on 1 October 1992, to mark the tenth anniversary of the World Assembly on Ageing;

20. Urges all organizations of the United Nations system and bilateral and multilateral development agencies to include the elderly in their development efforts, with particular focus on the mainstreaming approach;

21. Invites the United Nations Development Programme to include the elderly in the programmes of their social funds that aim, inter alia, to alleviate poverty;

22. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Social development".

74th plenary meeting
16 December 1991